



LT-167

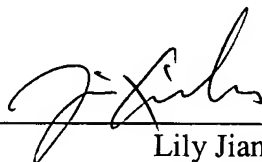
IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : Gregory P. Dittmer et al.
Application No. : 10/722,808 Confirmation No.: 8187
Filed : November 26, 2003
For : METHODS AND CIRCUITS FOR PROGRAMMABLE
CURRENT LIMIT PROTECTION
Group Art Unit : 2838
Examiner : Jeffrey L. Sterrett

EXPRESS MAIL CERTIFICATION

"Express Mail" Number EV621258026US
Date of Deposit December 12, 2005

I hereby certify that this paper/fee is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 C.F.R. 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to the Honorable Commissioner for Patents, P. O. Box 1450, ATTN: Mail Stop Issue Fee, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.



Lily Jiang

Enclosures: Transmittal Letter in Duplicate;
Issue Fee Transmittal Form in Duplicate
Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance
Supplemental IDS
Form PTO/SB/08
Eleven (11) References
Return Postcard

Rev. 12/04

Modified PTO 1083
For Other Than A Small Entity



PATENTS

Attorney Docket No. LT-167

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Mail Stop Issue Fee
Hon. Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

TRANSMITTAL LETTER

Sir:

Transmitted herewith: ☐ a Preliminary Amendment;
☒ Issue Fee Transmittal; ☒ Supplemental Information Disclosure; ☒ Comments on
Statement of Reasons for Allowance; ☐ a Supplemental Declaration; ☐ a Power of
Attorney; ☐ an Associate Power of Attorney; to be filed in the above-identified
patent application.

FEE FOR ADDITIONAL CLAIMS AND/OR PAGES

☒ A fee for additional claims or pages is not required.

☐ A fee for additional claims is required.

The additional fee has been calculated as shown below:

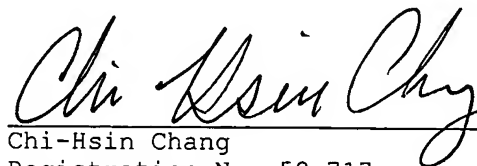
	CLAIMS REMAINING AFTER AMENDMENT	HIGHEST NUMBER PREVIOUSLY PAID FOR	PRESENT EXTRA	RATE	ADDITIONAL
TOTAL CLAIMS	-	*	= 0	x \$50	= \$.00
INDEPENDENT CLAIMS	-	**	= 0	x \$200	= \$.00
FIRST PRESENTATION OF A MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIM				+ \$360	= \$.00
TOTAL					\$.00

* If less than 20, insert 20.
** If less than 3, insert 3.

- ☐ As a result of the amendment submitted herewith, this application now includes excess pages beyond those previously paid for. The number of additional groups of 50 excess pages resulting from this amendment is _____ x \$250 = \$ _____.
- ☐ A check in the amount of \$ _____ in payment of the fee for additional claims and/or pages is transmitted herewith.
- ☒ The Director is hereby authorized to charge payment of any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 in connection with the paper(s) transmitted herewith, or credit any overpayment of same, to Deposit Account No. 06-1075 (Order No. 002447-0228). A duplicate copy of this transmittal letter is transmitted herewith.
- ☐ Please charge \$ _____ to Deposit Account No. 06-1075 in payment of the fee for additional claims. A duplicate copy of this transmittal letter is transmitted herewith.

EXTENSION FEE

- ☐ The following extension fee is applicable to the Response filed herewith:
☐ \$120.00 extension fee for response within first month pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a); ☐ \$450.00 extension fee for response within second month pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a); ☐ \$1,020.00 extension fee for response within third month pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a); ☐ \$1,590.00 extension fee for response within fourth month pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a); ☐ \$2,160.00 extension fee for response within fifth month pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a).
- ☐ A check in the amount of ☐ \$120.00 ☐ \$450.00 ☐ \$1,020.00 ☐ \$1,590.00 ☐ \$2,160.00 in payment of the extension fee is transmitted herewith.
- ☒ The Director is hereby authorized to charge payment of any additional extension fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17 in connection with the paper(s) transmitted herewith, or credit any overpayment of same, to Deposit Account No. 06-1075 (Order No. 002447-0228). A duplicate copy of this transmittal letter is transmitted herewith.
- ☐ Please charge the ☐ \$120.00 ☐ \$450.00 ☐ \$1,020.00 ☐ \$1,590.00 ☐ \$2,160.00 extension fee to Deposit Account No. 06-1075. A duplicate copy of this transmittal letter is transmitted herewith.



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PATENTS
Attorney Docket No. LT-167

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

PATENT APPLICATION

Applicant : Dittmer et al.
Application No. : 10/722,808 Confirmation No. : 8187
Filed : November 26, 2003
For : Methods and Circuits for Programmable
Current Limit Protection
Group Art Unit : 2838
Examiner : Jeffrey L. Sterrett

Palo Alto, California
December 12, 2005

Mail Box Issue Fee
Hon. Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

COMMENTS ON STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE
PURSUANT TO 37 C.F.R. § 1.104(e)

AND

RESPONSE TO EXAMINER'S COMMENTS ON
APPLICANTS' INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENTS

Sir:

I. Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance

The above-identified patent application was allowed on September 12, 2005. The Notice of Allowability included a

Statement of Reasons for Allowance (hereinafter "the Statement"). The Statement states:

"The claimed invention of a power converter current limit circuit is found to be allowable over the prior art since a power converter current limit circuit comprising a steady state current limit circuit that reduces an average current value through an inductor in the power converter to a steady state threshold during a transient phase and regulate the average inductor current value to the steady state threshold responsive to an overcurrent condition in addition to comprising a cycle by cycle current limit circuit that reduces instantaneous inductor current after the instantaneous inductor current equals or exceeds a maximum threshold during the transient phase was not found to be singularly or collectively taught by the prior art."

(Notice of Allowability, page 3)

While applicants appreciate the allowance of this application, applicants note that the Statement does not address the claims individually. The Statement also does not use the specific wording of the claims. For example, while the Statement recites that "a steady state current limit circuit ... regulate[s] the average inductor current value to the steady state threshold ...," claim 1 recites that the "steady-state current limit circuit ... regulates average inductor current value approximately at the steady-state threshold" Similarly, claim 18 recites that the "steady-state current limit circuit ... regulates output current approximately at the steady-state threshold" Indeed, none of the claims after

claim 18 expressly recite a steady-state current limit circuit or a cycle-by-cycle current limit circuit. The Statement also recites additional features not expressly recited in each of the allowed claims. Accordingly, the allowable subject matter for any particular claim can only be found from the language of that particular claim.

II. Response to Examiner's Comments on
Applicants' Information Disclosure Statements

In the Notice of Allowability dated September 12, 2005, the Examiner indicated that he could not locate some of the references submitted by applicants with the information disclosure statements submitted on August 30, 2004 and September 20, 2004.¹ Accordingly, applicants resubmit copies of those references in the Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement that accompanies this paper.

Also, in the September 20, 2004 information disclosure statement, applicants identified the following four references:

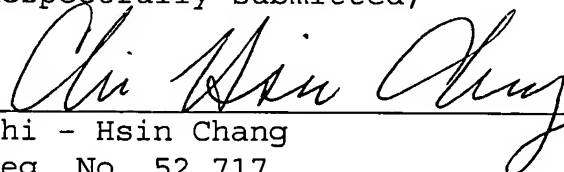
5,731,694	03-24-1998	Wilcox et al.
5,994,885	11-30-1999	Wilcox et al.
6,304,066	10-16-2001	Wilcox et al.
6,580,258	06-17-2003	Wilcox et al.

¹ The Notice of Allowability stated that the information disclosure statements were submitted on September 1, 2004 and September 22, 2004. However, applicants mailed the stated documents on August 30, 2004 and September 20, 2004 pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.8.

Due to inadvertent error on applicants' part, applicants unintentionally left these references off of the FORM PTO-1449 accompanying the September 20, 2004 information disclosure statement. However, applicants had identified two of these four references (i.e., U.S. Patent Nos. 5,731,694 and 5,994,885) previously in the August 30, 2004 information disclosure statement and accompanying FORM PTO-1449. Accordingly, applicants resubmit U.S. Patent Nos. 6,304,066 and 6,580,258 for the Examiner's consideration in the Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement accompanying this paper. Applicants apologize for the error and any inconvenience this has caused.

Applicants invite the Examiner to contact applicants' representatives if the Examiner has any questions.

Respectfully submitted,



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